

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 were previously pending in this application.

Claims 5-7 and 15-17 stand withdrawn as non-elected responsive to a restriction requirement and are hereby cancelled without prejudice for presentation in a divisional application.

Claims 1-4 and 8-14 stand rejected.

Claims 1-4 and 8-14 remain in the case for reconsideration.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - Double Patenting

Claims 1-4 and 8-14 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,376,876.

Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer as an expedient to obviate these double patenting rejections.

Since the double patenting rejections have been dispensed with, all claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant requests reconsideration in view of the foregoing remarks. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-4 and 8-14 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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